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based on comparables. Farm companies do this all the time. So the fair market value issue is separate from the public purpose issue, and that is what the assessor is able to do, and would certainly have no problem doing that. The argument has been made, this bill...we need to do it in its strictest interpretation, because that's what the public said. That's what we need to do. What we're looking at is...are two separate issues: land used for public purpose is exempt; land not used, the Legislature has the option. I believe, as Senator Byars said, in the instance of airport authorities, the people are aware that the airports are using their utmost resources to keep the airports in the shape that they need to be. And if we add this additional cost to them, they will be going back and having to increase your property taxes to defray the costs that they will now be charged if the amendment does not pass. And I'd ask for your support again.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chris Peterson. Senator Raikes on the Landis amendment.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I continue in my staunch opposition to this amendment. You know, this is difficult. This kind of change is not comfortable. And for government subdivisions, we're asking them to change. We're asking them to change the way that they have done things, that they continue to do things. We're asking them to do this in response to what voters have expressed in an election. Now, the change only goes so far. We're not telling any government subdivision that they can't lease property. We're not telling them that they must discontinue operations. All we're asking them to do is to pay taxes as a private individual would who was engaged in the same sort of an activity, if it is not for a public purpose. Senator Byars mentioned, in Beatrice nobody complains about competing with the airport. Maybe nobody there is concerned about property taxes. I think they are in most places. Beatrice must be quite a spot. This, I would remind you, does in fact bring equality there. It broadens the base so that comparable property is taxed comparably. The property tax base is broadened. The idea here is that a business venture or an entity is taxed the same, contributes to the social services, to schools, to all the things we enjoy as public services, regardless of who owns it.